. The town sounds a parley.

FLU. Captain Macmorris, when there is more
better opportunity to be required, look you, I will
be so bold as to tell you, I know the disciplines of
war; and there is an end [B].

[Exeunt.

SCENE III.

The same. Before the Gates of Harfleur.

The Governour and some Citizens on the Walls; the English Forces below. Enter King HENRY and his Train.

K. HEN. How yet resolves the governour of the
town ?
This is the latest parle we will admit:
Therefore, to our best mercy give yourselves;
Or, like to men proud of destruction,
Defy us to our worst: for, as I am a soldier [9],
(A name, that, in my thoughts, becomes me best,)
If I begin the battery once again,
I will not leave the half-achieved Harfleur,
Till in her ashes she lie buried.
The gates of mercy shall be all shut up[1];

s —there is an end.] It were to be wished that the poor merriment of this dialogue had not been purchased with so much profaneness. JOHNSON

[9] Defy us TO OUR WORST: for, as I am a soldier] The three words in small capitals are, I suppose, an interpolation. They have little value, and spoil the metre. STEEVENS

[1] The gates of mercy shall be all shut up:] Mr. Gray has borrowed this thought in his inimitable Elegy:

"And shut the gates of mercy on mankind." STEEVENS

We again meet with this significant expression in King Henry VI. Part III.:

"Open thy *gate of mercy*, gracious Lord!"

Sir Francis Bacon uses the same expression in a letter to King James, written a few days after the death of Shakspeare; "" And